
HOUSE RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO REFRAIN
FROM SELLING PUBLIC LANDS THAT CONTAIN OR ARE CONTIGUOUS TO
HAWAIIAN FISHPONDS.

1 WHEREAS, Hawaiian fishponds, or loko i'a, are cultural
2 treasures unique to Hawaii and the "Loko Kuapa" is a style and
3 feat of Hawaiian engineering that has not been duplicated
4 anywhere else in the world; and
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6 WHEREAS, these ancient structures are ties to an important
7 element of Hawaiian culture that is on the verge of being lost
8 forever; and
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10 WHEREAS, the experience of preserving, nurturing, and
11 revitalizing the loko i'a in recent times has proved to be a
12 valuable tool and resource for learning and an opportunity to
13 instill awareness of the need to "malama I ka 'ama"; and
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15 WHEREAS, traditional knowledge of the physical, spiritual,
16 and cultural aspects of loko i'a represents a near perfect
17 balance of early Hawaiians' understanding of our relationship to
18 the land, sea, and heavens; and
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20 WHEREAS, this knowledge continues to have a profound
21 influence in understanding the problems of contemporary society
22 and its relationship to the environment today; and
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24 WHEREAS, the State has a compelling interest in preserving
25 historic and culturally meaningful techniques related to
26 aquaculture and the environment; now, therefore,
27

28 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the
29 Twenty-fifth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session
30 of 2009, that the Department of Land and Natural Resources is
31 urged to refrain from selling public lands that contain Hawaiian



1 fishponds, in whole or part, and the land contiguous to these
2 culturally and historically significant systems; and

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4 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a certified copy of this
5 Resolution be transmitted to the Chairperson of the Board of
6 Land and Natural Resources.

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OFFERED BY:

[Signature]
Jyla B. Berg
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MAR 05 2009

